

**Subpart D—Call for Information and Nominations**

**§ 556.23 Information on areas.**

(a) The Director may receive and consider indications of interest in areas for mineral leasing.

(b) In accordance with an approved program and schedule for the leasing of OCS lands which may contain oil and gas, the Director shall issue Calls for Information and Nominations on areas for leasing of such minerals in specified areas. The Call for Information and Nominations shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and may be published in other publications as desirable. Information on areas shall be addressed to the appropriate BOEM regional supervisor with a copy to any other office which may be specified in the Call. The Director shall also request comments on areas which should receive special concern and analysis. For an oil and gas lease sale Call Area, the Director may request comments concerning geological conditions, including bottom hazards; archaeological sites on the seabed or near shore; multiple uses of the proposed leasing area, including navigation, recreation, and fisheries; and other socioeconomic, biological, and environmental information.

**§ 556.25 Areas near coastal States.**

(a) At the time information is solicited for leasing of areas within 3 geographical miles seaward of the seaward boundary of any coastal State, the Secretary shall provide the Governor of that State information required under section 8(g)(1) of the Act. The Director shall furnish information identifying the areas for leasing as well as all relevant available environmental data for such areas (See 30 CFR 551.14).

(b) After receipt of information on areas within the area described in paragraph (a) of this section, the Secretary shall inform the Governor of those areas that are to be given further consideration for leasing. The Secretary shall enter into consultation with the Governor to determine whether the area may contain oil or gas pools or fields underlying both the OCS and lands subject to the jurisdiction of the State.

(c) After selection for leasing of those tracts which may have oil or gas pools or fields underlying both the OCS and lands under State jurisdiction, the Secretary shall offer the Governor an opportunity to enter into an agreement for the equitable disposition of revenues from such tracts under section 8(g)(2) of the Act.

(d) If no agreement can be reached within 90 days of the Secretary's offer, the tracts may be leased and all revenues deposited in a separate Treasury account pending equitable disposition of the revenues under sections 8(g)(3) and (4) of the Act.

**Subpart E—Area Identification and Tract Size**

**§ 556.26 General.**

(a) The Director, in consultation with appropriate Federal Agencies, shall recommend to the Secretary areas identified for environmental analysis and consideration for leasing. The Director, on his/her own motion, may include in the recommendation areas in which interest has not been indicated in response to a call. In making a recommendation, the Director shall consider all available environmental information, multiple-use conflicts, resource potential, industry interest and other relevant information. Comments received from States and local governments and interested parties in response to calls for information and nominations shall be considered in making recommendations. For supplemental sales provided for by § 556.12 of this part, the Director's recommendation shall be replaced by a statement describing the results of the Director's consideration of the factors specified above in this section.

(b) The Director shall evaluate fully the potential effect of leasing on the human, marine and coastal environments, and develop measures to mitigate adverse impacts, including lease stipulations. The views and recommendations of Federal agencies, State agencies, local governments, organizations, industries and the general public shall be used as appropriate. The Director may hold public hearings on the environmental analysis after appropriate notice.